

**JOINT MEETING
HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AND
HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL
JULY 19, 2002**

A Joint Meeting of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners and Hamilton County Council was held July 19, 2002 at the Hamilton County 4-H Fairgrounds, 2003 E. Pleasant Street, Noblesville, IN 46060.

Commissioner President Clark called the meeting of the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners to order at 8:00 am. A quorum of Commissioners was declared present of Commissioner Sharon R. Clark and Commissioner Steven A. Holt. Commissioner Steven C. Dillinger was absent.

County Council President Levine called the meeting of the Hamilton County Council to order at 8:00 am and declared a quorum present of Christine Altman, Brad Beaver, Jim Belden, Meredith Carter, John Hiatt, and Judy Levine. Rick McKinney arrived at 8:10 am.

Juvenile Detention Center Project Update:

Larry Dawson and Dan Mayer of Envoy, Inc. presented a projected time line for the Juvenile Detention Center project.

The team consists of Bobbie Huskey, the two design firms (RQAW and American Consulting), the site programming firm (Cripe, Inc.), Madonna Roach is heading the application programming side along with Dan Stevens, Beth Gehlhausen, Ralph Watson and the juvenile staff from the probation department and the staff at the current Juvenile Detention Center.

Currently working on programming. Staff requirements will not be addressed until the programming is decided.

No monies will be requested for new programming for 2003. Design monies will be requested in 2003.

Christine Altman would like to receive information on the staging end of the programs with a time chart, as we budget what costs we will incur.

Animal Control:

Cindy Ramsey and David Brown presented an overview of the current situation at the Hamilton County Humane Society. Options presented for discussion:

Option One - Humane Society and Hamilton County continue to partner. County pays for animal sheltering.

Option Two - Humane Society and Hamilton County split. County buys the Humane Society out of the current facility and takes on responsibility of animal shelter for the entire county.

Humane Society endorses Option One.

Dave Sanders presented what the Humane Society would like to see in a new facility. Projected cost is \$2.9 million. These costs do not include real estate fees, legal fees, interest costs and land costs.

Cindy Ramsey stated the \$270,000 budget request does not include animal control officer and costs. This is for animal sheltering costs for strays for seven days when they come to the facility. The funds for animal control come thru the Sheriff's Department or different municipalities. This request does include opening up the northern part of the county.

Rick McKinney stated he is in favor of the County supporting Option #1.

Christine asked how do you resolve the state statute that requires each municipality or incorporated area to provide their own animal control with your proposal? Ms. Ramsey stated by allowing us to take care of the individual animals from the different municipalities. The problem is with the funding. The county would have to go after the municipalities for funding that would make it easier for the Humane Society.

(Tape 1, #1363)

Christine asked John Culp to render an opinion as to whether this contract meets state statute. Mr. Culp stated the only way to make this work would be for the Hamilton County Council and various cities and towns to enter into interlocal agreements.

Sharon stated animal shelter has nothing to do with animal control. Sheriff Cook has two people who have been sent to the National Animal Control Association training. Sheriff Cook has obtained a pick-up truck with a cap, he has cages and the animal control officers are trained. Fishers, Noblesville and Carmel have animal control officers. Westfield is in the process of getting somebody trained. Sharon stated it is time for the county to have animal control officers.

Steve Holt would like John Culp and Mike Reuter to work on finding a revenue stream that could bond it and build it. Another avenue would be to see if we could get special legislation to do something outside the levy across the board.

Sharon called a break at 9:25 am. Sharon called the meeting back to order at 9:45 am.

(Tape 2, #1080)

E-911 Surcharge Increase:

Sharon passed out information regarding the E-911 surcharge increase. Sharon stated we have received support letters for the rate increase from Cicero, Jackson Township and Westfield. We are waiting for Fishers, Sheridan and Noblesville. Carmel and Acardia stated they need more information. The E-911 Review Board recommends raising the rate to \$2.16 per line. E-911 funds would be able to pay for the system upgrade. Sharon stated the Sheriff is currently preparing the E-911 budget and she thinks the E-911 Review Board should be preparing the budget.

The GPS system is proprietary in a sense that all the equipment bought to date works with it.

There are two other companies that use a simulcast system and if we chose to work with them we would have to replace everything, which would double or triple the cost. We are going to stay with M/A-Com.

(Tape 3, #420)

Christine would like a bond forecast over 10 years with our initial capital costs and look at our costs like we have with the paramedic program and if we were handling the entire county and plug that in to our personnel costs and see if we can cover the whole thing with the \$2.16 surcharge. If we do that from these numbers we would relieve \$1.2 million from General Fund. We could then tell Carmel and Noblesville what their proportionate rate would be. There appears to be no component for software replacement.

Consensus of both groups is that we need to improve our radio dispatch system.

County Council Finance Committee will work with Mike Reuter to put together funding.

\$4.2 million does not include land, tower and fencing. Does not include one time maintenance fee of \$75,000 for five years, and an estimated \$2,000 for FCC License. Towers are \$75,000 each.

John Hiatt would like the agreements to include a cap that we only reimburse Carmel, Noblesville and the County.

Rick McKinney left the meeting at 10:30 am.

(Tape 3, #1045)

Financial Update:

Mike Reuter reviewed the County's current financial status.

(Tape 4, #200)

Summary

E-911:

Finance Committee will prepare a funding plan for County Council.

Animal Control:

Look at a bond issue outside the levy.

Christine asked Mike Reuter to work with the Auditor on a time frame on getting approval for a bond payment for inclusion in the 2003 budget.

Christine Altman requested information from the prior retreat and the request was declined.

No decision on Animal Control.

Juvenile Detention Center:

Mike stated the Juvenile Detention Center should be bonded with a property tax backup and could be paid from CCD.

Solid Waste Tax Rate:

Christine asked John Culp to talk with the Auditor to find out when the cut-off date is for the request for a levy for Solid Waste. Robin Mills stated it is May 1st, we received a clarification from the Department of Local Government Finance.

Christine asked Mike Reuter to do protective advertising for bond issues for:

\$4 million/20 years- Animal Control

\$5 million/20 years - Parks

\$5 million/10 years - E-911

Sharon Clark adjourned the meeting at 11:45 am.

Present:

Sharon R. Clark
David Brown, Humane Society
Steven A. Holt
Dan Mayer, Envoy, Inc.
Judy Levine
Larry Dawson, Envoy, Inc.
Christine Altman
Ginny Kelleher, Humane Society
Brad Beaver
Patricia Ritz, Humane Society
Jim Belden
Susan Alexander, Humane Society
Meredith Carter
Beverly V. Behren, Humane Society
John Hiatt
Bruce Graham, Carmel Animal Control Officer
Rick McKinney
Kate Lewis, Ledger
Robin M. Mills
Jim Gillaspy, The Star
Dawn Coverdale
Kim Rauch
Fred Swift
Mike Reuter
Cindy Ramsey, Humane Society
David Sanders, Humane Society

APPROVED:

HAMILTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

Robin M. Mills, Auditor

Date:

APPROVED

HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL:

ATTEST:

Robin M. Mills, Auditor

Date: